

House Resolution

No. 11

Introduced by Assembly Member Ruskin

March 4, 2009

House Resolution No. 11—Relative to drinking water treated with chloramine.

1 WHEREAS, Disinfection of public water supplies has been
2 considered by the federal Centers for Disease Control and
3 Prevention as one of the most significant public health
4 accomplishments of all time; and

5 WHEREAS, Water agencies have used chlorine or chloramine
6 as a residual disinfectant for over 90 years; and

7 WHEREAS, All disinfectants can react with natural organic
8 matter to form potentially harmful disinfection byproducts; and

9 WHEREAS, Chloramine forms lower levels of the regulated
10 disinfection byproducts than chlorine; and

11 WHEREAS, The California Conference of Local Health Officers
12 has reviewed current information and evidence regarding the
13 efficacy and safety of chloramine and concluded that chloramine
14 adequately protects the public health by controlling exposure to
15 waterborne organisms; and

16 WHEREAS, Some people are extremely concerned about the
17 use of chloramine as a drinking water disinfectant and the
18 unregulated disinfection byproducts that the use may produce; and

19 WHEREAS, Drinking water treated with chloramine is not
20 known to cause significant adverse human health effects; and

21 WHEREAS, Human health studies that focus on the symptoms
22 that some people attribute to chloramine exposure have not been
23 undertaken; and

1 WHEREAS, Some disinfection byproducts of chloramine are
2 not regulated by the United States Environmental Protection
3 Agency; now, therefore, be it
4 *Resolved by the Assembly of the State of California*, That the
5 Assembly requests the State Department of Public Health to review
6 these public health concerns relating to the use of chloramine as
7 a drinking water disinfectant and to conduct studies, particularly
8 human health studies, as appropriate, to provide necessary public
9 health information to further clarify the human health effects of
10 chloramine; and be it further
11 *Resolved*, That the Chief Clerk of the Assembly transmit copies
12 of this resolution to the author for appropriate distribution.